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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/044,125	01/11/2002	Matthew Joseph Anglin	TUC920010054US1	8040

7590

04/29/2004

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EXAMINER

LE, DEBBIE M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2177

DATE MAILED: 04/29/2004

3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

52

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/044,125

Applicant(s)

ANGLIN ET AL.

Examiner

DEBBIE M LE

Art Unit

2177

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 1/11/02 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 9/23/02 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and has been considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated over Demers et al (USP Application No. 2002/0174142 A1).

As per claim 1, Demers discloses a method for updating changes to a database table in response to requests from a requesting application comprising:

one of a first application at a first version level (source) and a second application at a second version level (destination), wherein the first application recognizes the table as including a subset of columns in the table that is less than all the columns in the table (as the source site 202 fails to include a column that is present at the destination site 204) and wherein the second application recognizes the table as including all the columns in the table (the source site 202 is an extra column that is not found at the destination 204 (fig. 3b, page 4, ¶ 0043), comprising:

receiving a request from the requesting application for specified columns from one record in the table (a request to update the snapshots, page 5, ¶ 0059);

accessing the requested record; generating a data structure including data from the specified columns in the requested record (the master database server handles the differences between flavors, fig. 3a, page 5, ¶ 0060);

determining whether the requesting application is capable of recognizing all the columns in the table; adding to the data structure data from each column in the table that is not one of the subset of columns if the requesting application is determined to not recognize all the columns in the table; and returning the data structure to the requesting application (fig. 3b, by ignoring extra columns or filling in missing columns with default values as the case may be, page 4, ¶ 0043, page 5, ¶ 0069).

As per claim 2, Demers teaches wherein the second version level of the application includes additional functionality over the first version level (as the missing column is filled in with a default value (page 4, ¶ 0043).

As per claim 3, Demers teaches receiving from the requesting application a request to delete (¶ 0037, ¶ 0039, delete, remove, or drop object or column) the accessed record after returning the data structure to the requesting application; and deleting the accessed record from the table (page 4, ¶ 0050-0052).

As per claim 4, Demers teaches wherein generating the data structure further comprises adding a record identifier (a primary key) identifying the accessed record in the table to the data structure (column), wherein the received request to delete from the requesting application requests to delete the record having the record identifier included in the data structure (fig. 2, ¶ 0035, ¶ 0051).

As per claim 5, Demers teaches receiving the data structure returned to the requesting application including data updated by the requesting application; generating a table record having columns including the data in the received data structure, including the data updated by the requesting application; and inserting the generated table record into the table (results in adding the new column 400 to old table 410 to produce table 413 with a different shape than previously, ¶ 0049-0050).

As per claim 6, Demers teaches after deleting the table record, deleting an index record in an index on the table corresponding to the deleted table record (the subset of the table column of a corresponding index); and adding one index record to the index for the inserted table record, wherein the data updated by the requesting application

comprises at least one index key column used to sort the index records in the index (as equivalent to the sites must agree on the types of identically named columns and the conflict resolution procedures, ¶ 0036).

As per claim 7, Demers teaches wherein the request from the requesting application comprises a request to update at least one column in the table that is a key column in one index record corresponding to the requested record in an index on the table, further comprising: deleting the accessed record from the table and the index record corresponding to the accessed record; and receiving the data structure returned to the requesting application including data modified by the requesting application in at least one column in the table that is one key column in the index (as equivalent to the sites must agree on the types of identically named columns and the conflict resolution procedures, ¶ 0036).

As per claim 8, Demers teaches generating one table record having columns including the data in the received data structure, including the data updated by the requesting application; inserting the generated table record into the table after deleting the table record and index record (results in adding the new column 400 to old table 410 to produce table 413 with a different shape than previously, ¶ 0049-0050); and generating and inserting one index record into the index for the inserted table record, wherein the data updated by the requesting application comprises at least one index key column used to sort the index records in the index (as equivalent to the sites must agree on the types of identically named columns and the conflict resolution procedures, ¶ 0036).

As per claim 9, Demers teaches wherein the request for specified columns from one record comprises a database query (database commands, INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE, ¶ 0041).

Claims 10, 16, 21, 24 and 29 are rejected by the same rationale as state in independent claim 1 arguments.

Claims 11-15, 17-20, 22-23, 25-28, 30-31 have similar limitations as claims 2-9; therefore, they are rejected under the same subject matter.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DEBBIE M LE whose telephone number is 703-308-6409. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JOHN BREENE can be reached on 703-305-9790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.


Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



DEBBIE M LE
Examiner
Art Unit 2177

Debbie Le

April 27, 2004.



GRETA ROBINSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER